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Frederick County Health Department

# *News Release*

**CONTACT: Karen Amoss**  
**Public Information Representative**  
**Environmental Health**  
**301-600-1726**  
**TTY: Use Maryland Relay**  
**KAmoss@frederickcountymd.gov**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**MAY 31, 2013**

## **ANNUAL OPEN BURN BAN NOTIFICATION**

**FREDERICK, MD --** The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) reminds county property owners that there is a ban on open burning in effect from June 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>. No open burning permits can be used during this time period. This ban does not apply to small recreational fires such as campfires, the use of barbeques, or gas grills.

The annual ban, which is prescribed by the Maryland State Air Quality regulations, first went into effect in June 1995. The ban extends throughout the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Region and is designed to reduce the high ozone levels that affect the region during the summer months.

The FCHD would also like to advise that an open burning permit is required from the Health Department for all other times of the year when burning is allowed. Permits can be obtained by visiting the FCHD, Environmental Health office located at 350 Montevue Lane, Entrance A.

Violation of the Open Burning Ban or open burning without a permit is subject to a fine of up to \$500 under the Frederick County Code and under Maryland State Regulations, a penalty up to \$25,000. For additional information, contact Community Services of the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1717.

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Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

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350 Montevue Lane ▪ Frederick, MD 21702

Phone: 301-600-1029 ▪ Fax: 301-600-3111 ▪ MD TTY: 1-800-735-2258

